

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 SAJ-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 NIC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EB-11 COME-00

CIEP-02 OPIC-12 AID-20 FEA-02 INT-08 AGR-20 STR-08

DRC-01 /217 W

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R 250856Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9709

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

CINCLANT POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 0609

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : MARR GV CH UR

SUBJECT : CHINESE VIEWS ON POSSIBLE SOVIET BASE IN GUINEA

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH ME APRIL 24, CHINESE AMBASSADOR KE-HUA HAN ASKED WHETHER I HAD SEEN ARTICLE IN LE MONDE REPORTING THAT SOVIET NAVAL BASE BEING BUILT IN GUINEA AND WHETHER I HAD ANY INFORMATION IN THIS REGARD. I ACKNOWLEDGED HAVING SEEN ARTICLE AND SAID I HAD NO OTHER INFORMATION AND WONDERED WHETHER HE DID.

2. AMBASSADOR HAN SAID HE HAD NO SPECIFIC INFORMATION BUT COULD WELL UNDERSTAND RUSSIANS ATTEMPTING TO GET SOME KIND OF MILITARY BASE HERE SINCE THEY TEND TO IMPOSE CONDITIONS AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ANY SITUATION. HE THOUGHT RUSSIANS WOULD LIKE TO HAVE MILITARY BASE SOMEWHERE IN WEST AFRICA. THEY COULD NOT DO SO IN SENEGAL, IVORY COAST, SIERRA LEONE OR LIBERIA SINCE RELATIONS WITH THOSE COUNTRIES NOT CLOSE  
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ENOUGH. OBVIOUS TARGET, THEREFORE, WOULD BE GUINEA. HE

EXPRESSED DOUBT, HOWEVER, THAT GUINEA WOULD WISH TO PERMIT SOVIETS TO HAVE BASE HERE SINCE IT WOULD BE CONTRARY TO GUINEA'S INSISTENCE ON COMPLETE SOVEREIGNTY AND INDEPENDENCE OF ACTION. ALSO, GUINEA WOULD BE AWARE THAT TO PERMIT SOVIET MILITARY BASE HERE WOULD HAVE IMPORTANT CONSEQUENCES INTERNATIONALLY AS WELL AS ON WEST AFRICAN SCENE. HE THOUGHT IT POSSIBLE THAT SOVIETS MIGHT BE CONSTRUCTING SOME MINOR FACILITIES FOR THE GUINEANS. HE SAID IN ANY CASE MATTER WAS WORTH WATCHING CLOSELY.

3. CONTINUING IN SAME VEIN, AMBASSADOR HAN SAID SOVIETS UNDERTAKE ACTIVITIES ONLY WHEN IT IS TO THEIR CLEAR ADVANTAGE; THUS SOVIETS EXPLOITING GUINEAN BAUXITE WHICH IS GOOD DEAL FOR SOVIET UNION BUT IS NOT MAKING ANY CONTRIBUTION IN AGRICULTURAL FIELD BECAUSE THAT WOULD NOT PROVIDE ANY BENEFITS FOR SOVIETS. HE REMARKED THAT DURING PAST YEAR SOVIETS HAD PROVEN THEMSELVES TO BE VERY SHARP TRADERS AND HAD MADE FORTUNES ON AMERICAN WHEAT DEAL AND ON OIL DURING PERIOD OF EMBARGO. HE SAID PRESENT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN RUSSIA AND CHINA ARE BECAUSE OF RUSSIAN ATTEMPTS AT DOMINATION, WHICH CHINA WILL NEVER ACCEPT.

TODMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** MARR, GV, CH, UR, (KE-HUAN HAN)  
**To:** STATE  
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